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A BRIEF HISTORY OF

WOOD COUNTY AND BOWLING GREEN

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SOME FACTS ABOUT WOOD COUNTY

OOD COUNTY is the third largest county of the State, having an area of 620 square miles, and a population of 60,000. With the single exception of Lucas County, which contains the city of Toledo, Wood County has the largest population of any county in Northwestern Ohio. On every hand may be seen improved farms with their modern buildings, green pastures, waving grain fields and meadows— the result of the labors of a thrifty and industrious people.

There are more than 250 miles of main line of steam railroads in operation in the county, and this mileage is so distributed that no point in the county is more than five miles from a railway station. Forming this network is the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton; Toledo & Ohio Central (Western Division); Toledo & Ohio Central (Eastern Division); Hocking Valley; Baltimore & Ohio; Pennsylvania; Clover Leaf and Lake Shore.

The county has 130 miles of electric railroad within its borders, furnishing service equal to any in the state. The Toledo, Urban & Interurban, running north and south through the central part of the county, connects at Findlay with the Western Ohio electric lines and with other lines entering Toledo. The Lake Erie Bowling Green & Napoleon electric line runs east and west through the center of the county, connecting with the Toledo, Fostoria & Findlay electric line in the eastern part of the county, and with the Lake Shore electric line at Woodville; also with the Pennsylvania railroad at Woodville, and the Hocking Valley and eastern division of the Ohio Central at Pemberville. On the west it connects with the Toledo & Lima electric lines. Not only do these roads render any place in the county of easy access to any place in the state, but they add $3,000,000 to the tax duplicate of the county.

To further facilitate travel the public spirited citizens of the county have built more than 350 miles of stone road at a cost of $1,600,000.

The county has twenty-one municipal corporations. Outside of that it is thickly populated and has a tax duplicate of $27,000,000.

Each of the twenty-one municipal corporations of the county maintains a good high school, and in these village and district schools of the county 14,000 pupils are being trained annually. Three hundred and sixty-five teachers are engaged in this training work and the county expends for school purposes annually over $250,000. In 1906-7 the county paid the state for school purposes $26,516.17 and received from the state for school purposes ($1.70 per pupil) $24,201.00, rendering state aid to the extent of $2,314.97. For a number of years Wood County has been paying to the state more than it has received.

BOWLING GREEN

BOWLING GREEN is a beautiful city of 5,000 people, situated twenty miles south of Toledo and in the center of Wood County of which it is the county seat. As Lake Erie receded it left behind, in several parts of the state, low hills and bluffs covering beds of lime stone; and it is upon one of these ridges that the city of Bowling Green is built. The city stands 167 feet above the level of Lake Erie, and 739 feet above sea level. As most of its growth has been made in recent years its streets are wide and its numerous beautiful residences new and modern in construction. The public spirited citizens of Bowling Green have not spared time, energy or money in making their city a most attractive, healthful, convenient and desirable place in which to reside. The more important streets of the city are paved with either brick or macadam, and the sewerage system is of the most approved construction. Indeed all the conveniences of the modern city are found in Bowling Green — street car service, electric light plant. hot water heating plant, natural gas, and water plant. The water company obtains its water supply west of the city by pumping from the lime-stone rock 300 feet below the surface. The supply is ample and the quality all that could be desired.

Bowling Green has excellent railroad accommodations: being located on the western divison of the Toledo & Ohio Central running from Toledo to Columbus through Findlay and Kenton, and also on the Cincinnati Hamilton & Dayton railway, making connections with Toledo and Cincinnati through Lima, Piqua, Wapakoneta and Dayton. The Toledo Urban & Interurban electric road runs from Toledo through the city to Dayton, connecting with the Toledo, Fostoria & Findlay electric road and all steam roads at Findlay, the Baltimore & Ohio at North Baltimore and the Western Ohio lines to the south. The Lake Erie, Bowling Green & Napoleon electric railway passes east and west through the city connecting with the Toledo, Fostoria & Findlay electric, the Hocking Valley and the Toledo & Ohio Central roads at Pemberville, the Lake Shore electric and Pennsylvania railroad at Woodville, and the Toledo & Lima electric road which runs through the western part of the county. Including steam and electric lines, 66 passenger trains per day pass in and out of Bowling Green.

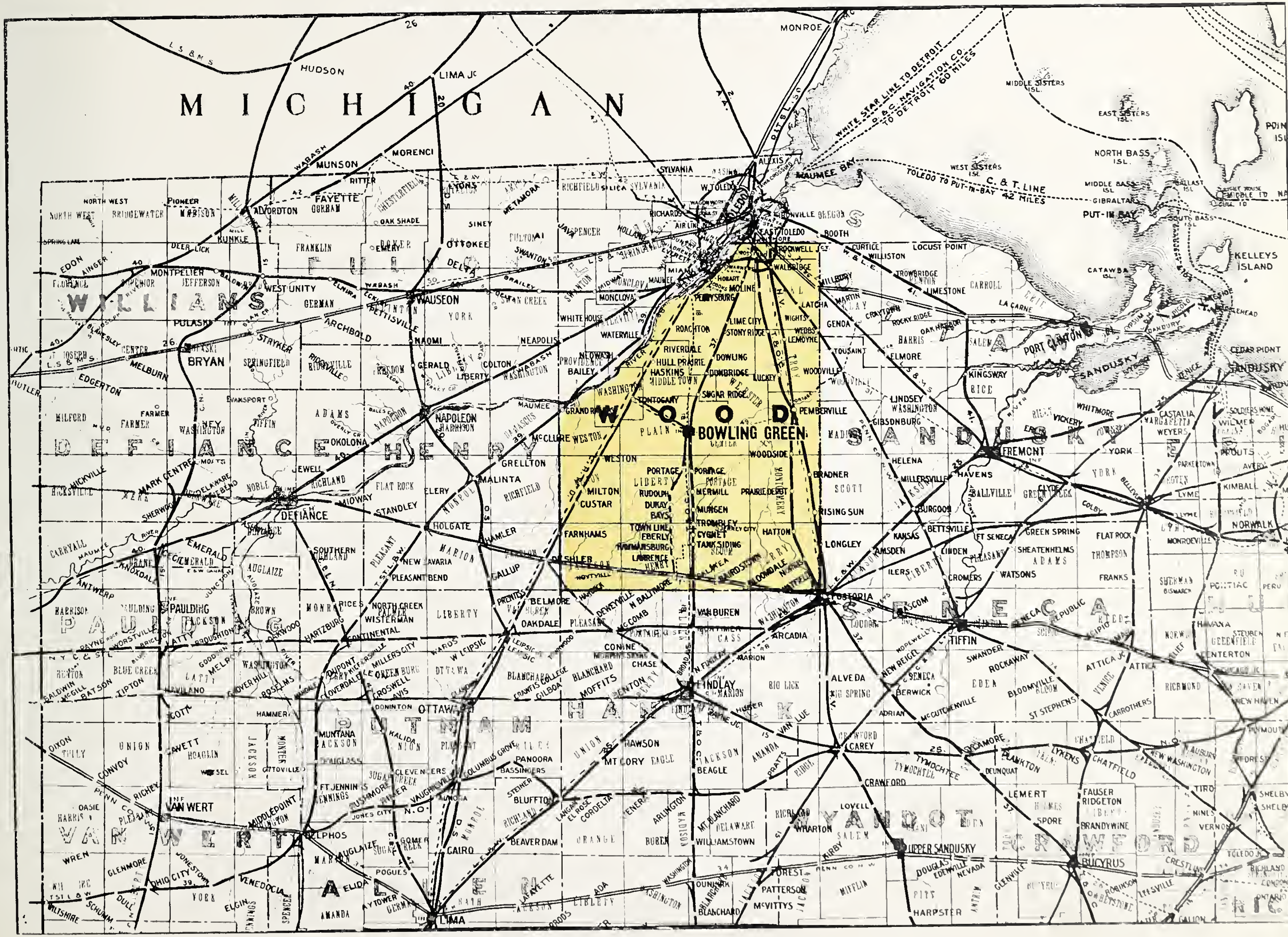
The public buildings of the city are of recent construction and consequently modern, commodious, and in harmony with good taste. The grounds about them are well kept and adorned with flowers and appropriate shrubbery.

A splendid moral and religious atmosphere prevades the city and directs the affairs of its people. The various church societies have, in the last few years, built new modern church homes, as a rule large, beautiful and artistic in all their appointments and free from debt.

As Bowling Green grew from a village to a city her citizens took care to provide ample grounds and buildings for the education of her youth. These school buildings are judiciously located and a strong educational sentiment among the people of the city has made it possible to provide an able and efficient corps of teachers for its youth. The high school enrolls more than 200 pupils at the present time and is equipped with good apparatus and an enthusiastic corps of college trained teachers.

The business houses and banking institutions of the city will compare favorably with those of any other city of its size.

In the eastern part of the city there is situated a tract of rolling ground covered with native oak, hickory and other trees ,known as the City Park. This beautiful spot of nature the city tenders to the State of Ohio as a site for the Normal School which the state is about to found in Northwestern Ohio.



MAP OF NORTHWESTERN OHIO

Photo by Walker

WOOD COUNTY COURT HOUSE, BOWLING GREEN

Photo by Walker

CITY WATER WORKS

CITY BUILDING

Photo by Walker

MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH

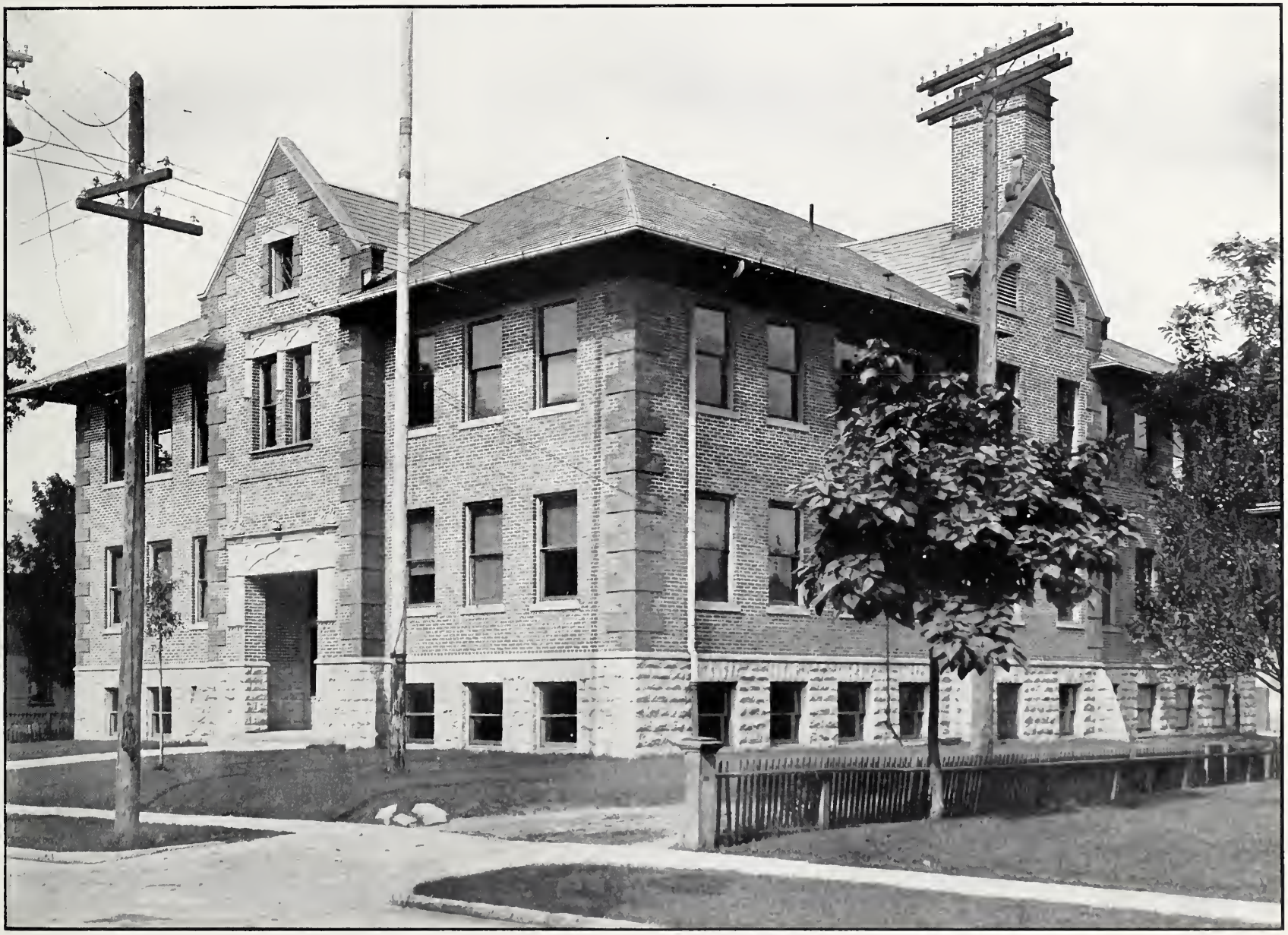
Photo by Walker

Photo by Walker

MAIN STREET LOOKING SOUTH

HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

Photo by Walker



CHURCH STREET SCHOOL BUILDING

Photo by Walker

RIDGE STREET SCHOOL BUILDING

Photo by Walker

SOUTH MAIN STREET SCHOOL BUILDING

Photo by Walker

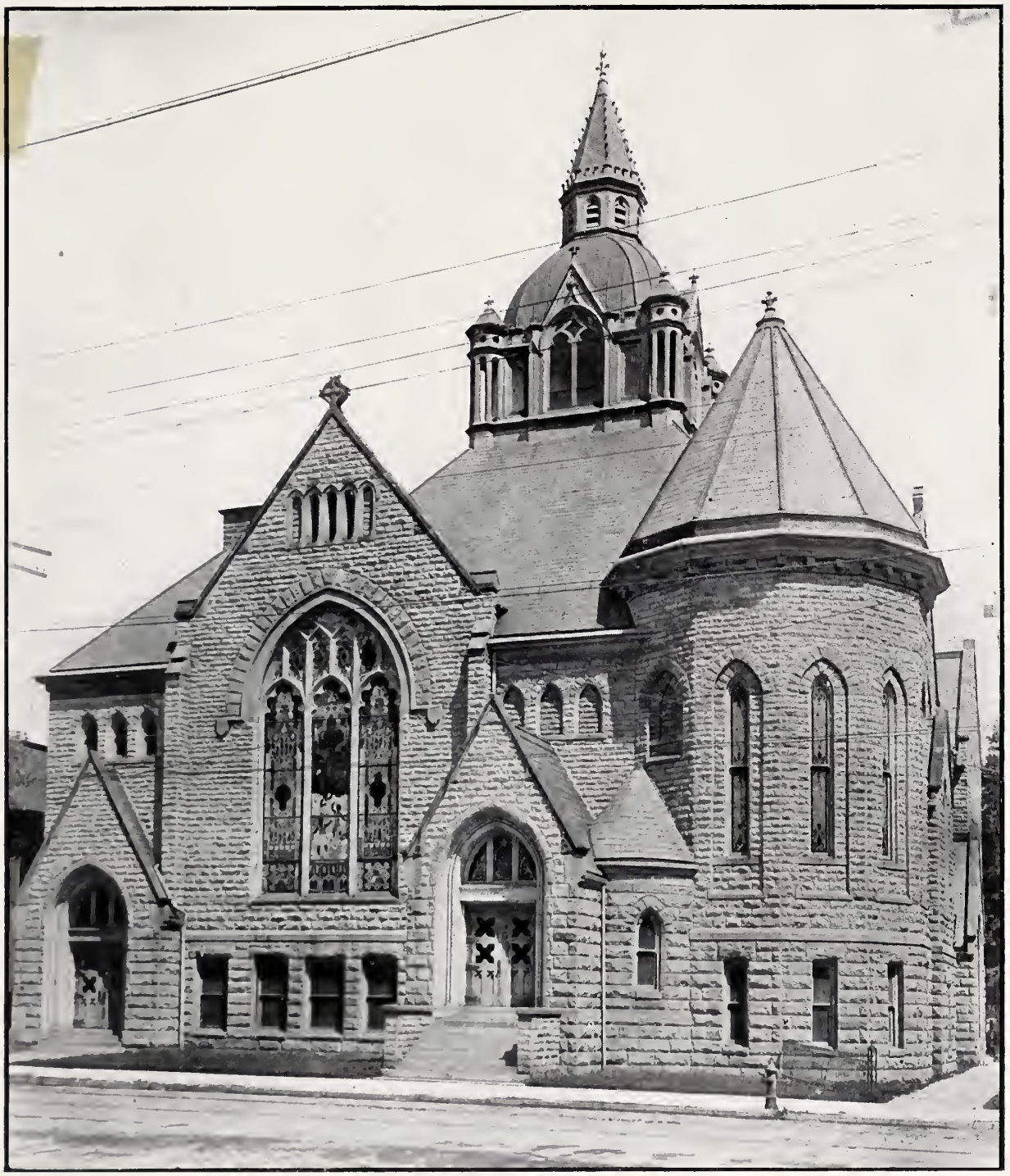


Photo by Walker

M. E. CHURCH, WOOSTER STREET

CHURCH OF CHRIST, MAIN STREET

Photo by Walker

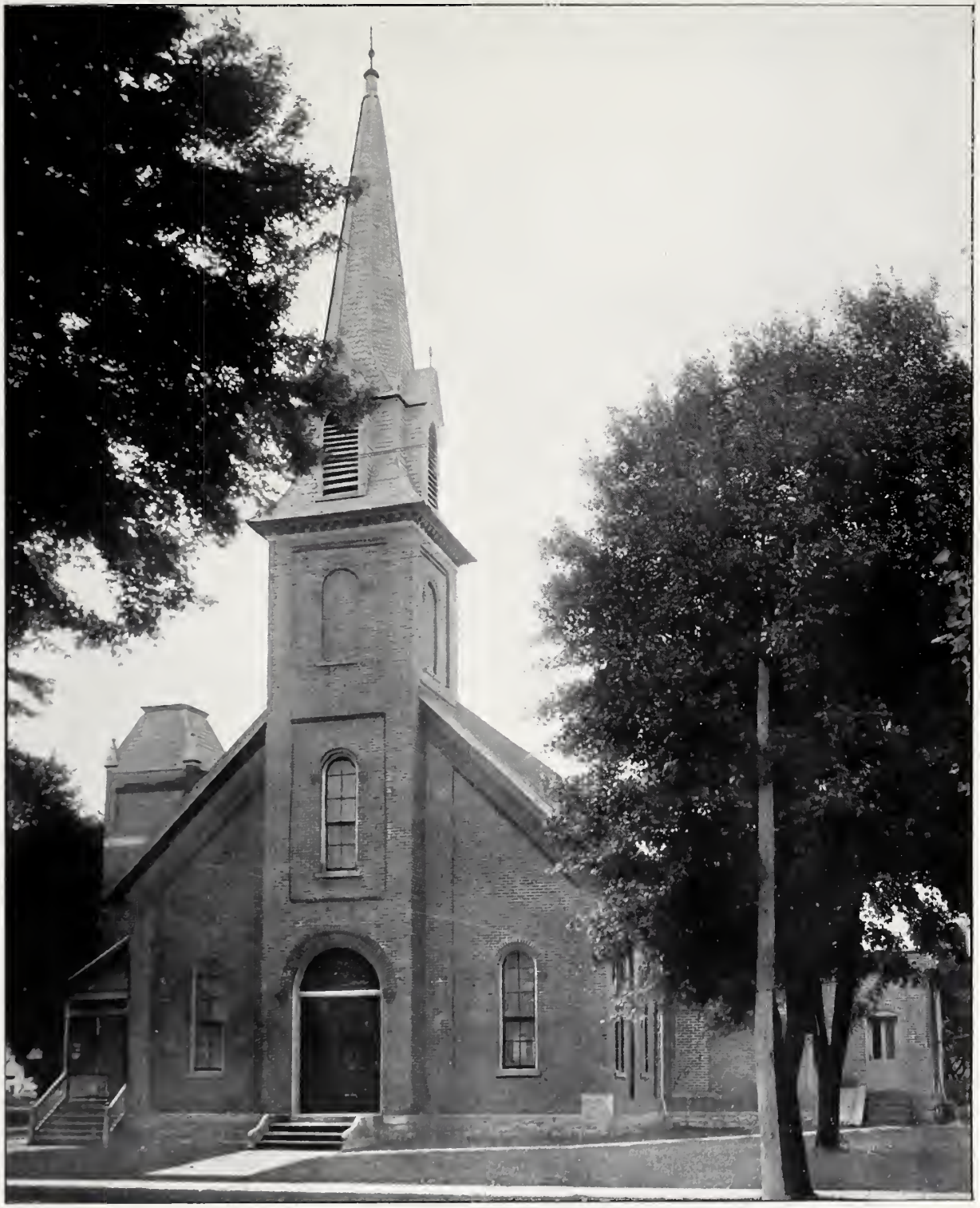


Photo by Walker

U. B. CHURCH, COURT STREET

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND PARSONAGE, CHURCH STREET

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BAPTIST CHURCH, OAK STREET

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ST. ALOYSUIS CHURCH, SUMMIT STREET

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Y. M. C. A.

COURT STREET, LOOKING EAST

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PROSPECT STREET, LOOKING NORTH

GROVE STREET, LOOKING SOUTH

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WOOSTER STREET, LOOKING WEST

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WOOSTER STREET

Photo by Walker

PROSPECT STREET, LOOKING SOUTH

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WEST WOOSTER STREET

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CITY PARK

Photo by Walker

CITY PARK

CITY PARK

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